

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 1 is patterned after dependent claim 3 of US 6,743,248, which issued from the parent US Application Serial No. 09/548,145, but is broader in that it does not define "a guidewire lumen." Claim 9 has been amended to be dependent upon amended claim 1.

Claims 2 to 8 and 10 to 28 have been cancelled as being directed to a non-elected species.

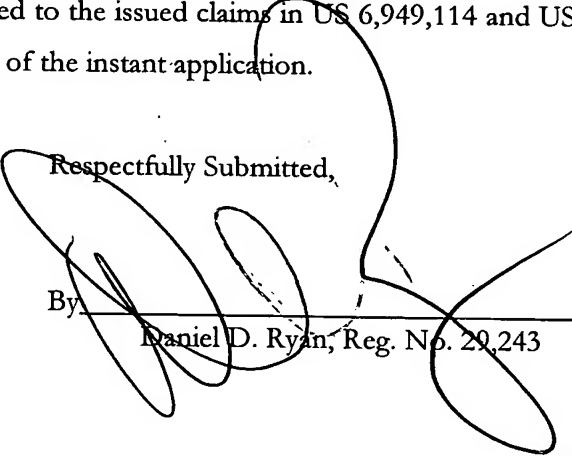
Claims 1 and 9 remain in the application.

In response to the species election requirement, applicant hereby elects (without traverse) Species VIII (Figs. 12a and 12b). Claims 1 and 9 read on the elected species.

The Examiner's attention is directed to the issued claims in US 6,949,114 and US 6,994,689, which are commonly owned by the owner of the instant application.

Respectfully Submitted,

By


Daniel D. Ryan, Reg. No. 29,243

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C.

Post Office Box 26618

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226

(262) 783 - 1300

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Customer No.: 26308